

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for communicating information over a network, comprising:
2 exposing a local clipboard of a computing device as a service to at least one
3 external application over the network;
4 receiving a transfer indication from the external application that a transfer
5 of information between the exposed local clipboard of the computing device and the
6 external application is requested; and
7 facilitating the transfer of information between the local clipboard of the
8 computing device and the external application in response to the transfer indication.
- 1 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein exposing the local clipboard of the
2 computing device as a service comprises exposing the local clipboard as a web service to
3 the one or more external applications over the network.
- 1 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving a transfer indication comprises
2 receiving a request to copy information from the local clipboard to the external application.
- 1 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving a transfer indication comprises
2 receiving a request to copy information from the external application to the local clipboard
3 of the computing device.
- 1 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving a transfer indication comprises
2 recognizing selection of a link presented to a browser application executing on a device
3 associated with the external application, and receiving the transfer indication associated
4 with the selected link.
- 1 6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising providing a notification to the
2 external application that information was posted to the local clipboard by the computing
3 device.

1 7. The method of Claim 6, wherein providing a notification to the external
2 application comprises sending a message to the external application indicating that the
3 information was posted to the local clipboard by the computing device.

1 8. The method of Claim 6, wherein providing a notification to the external
2 application comprises presenting information on a network site available to the external
3 application, indicating that the information was posted to the local clipboard by the
4 computing device.

1 9. The method of Claim 1, wherein facilitating a transfer of the information
2 between the local clipboard and the external application comprises transmitting the
3 information from the local clipboard to the external application over the network.

1 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein facilitating a transfer of the information
2 between the local clipboard and the external application comprises receiving the
3 information from the external application and storing the information on the local
4 clipboard.

1 11. The method of Claim 1, wherein the computing device comprises a
2 Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) client, and wherein exposing the local clipboard
3 comprises exposing the local clipboard via the HTTP client using a Simple Object Access
4 Protocol (SOAP).

1 12. A method for transferring data between first and second devices over a
2 network, comprising:
3 exposing a local clipboard of the first device as a clipboard web service to at
4 least one external application operating on the second device;
5 notifying the external application of the availability of the clipboard web
6 service;
7 accepting service requests from the external application via the clipboard
8 web service to access the local clipboard of the first device; and

9 transferring the data in accordance with the service request between the
10 local clipboard and the external application via the clipboard web service.

1 13. The method of Claim 12, further comprising notifying the second device of
2 the availability of data on the clipboard.

1 14. The method of Claim 12, further comprising translating the service request
2 to a native call recognized by a clipboard API and executing the native call to access the
3 local clipboard of the first device.

1 15. The method of Claim 12, further comprising converting the data from a first
2 format to at least a second format prior to transferring the data.

1 16. The method of Claim 12, further comprising controlling access of the
2 external application to the local clipboard.

1 17. The method of Claim 16, wherein controlling access comprises determining
2 whether the external application has permission to read or write the local clipboard.

1 18. The method of Claim 17, wherein determining whether the external
2 application has permission to read or write the local clipboard comprises accessing local
3 access control rules.

1 19. The method of Claim 17, wherein determining whether the external
2 application has permission to read or write the local clipboard comprises performing a call
3 function to another module to identify whether such permission exists.

1 20. The method of Claim 17, wherein determining whether the external
2 application has permission to read or write the local clipboard comprises prompting the
3 external application for permissions.

1 21. The method of Claim 12, wherein the first device comprises a Hypertext
2 Transfer Protocol (HTTP) client, and wherein exposing the local clipboard comprises
3 exposing the local clipboard via the HTTP client using a Simple Object Access Protocol
4 (SOAP).

1 22. The method of Claim 12, wherein exposing the local clipboard comprises
2 exposing the local clipboard by establishing a session using a Session Initiation Protocol
3 (SIP).

1 23. The method of Claim 12, wherein the first device comprises a Hypertext
2 Transfer Protocol (HTTP) client, and wherein notifying the external application of the
3 availability of the clipboard web service comprises notifying the external application via
4 the HTTP client using a Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP).

1 24. The method of Claim 12, wherein notifying the external application of the
2 availability of the clipboard web service comprises providing a notification entry in a
3 device profile of the second device.

1 25. The method of Claim 12, further comprising marking the data at the
2 external application with at least one keyword.

1 26. The method of Claim 25, further comprising differentiating the marked data
2 from other data based on at least the keyword.

1 27. The method of Claim 12, wherein accepting service requests from the
2 external application comprises accepting service requests having one or more request
3 arguments associated therewith, wherein the one or more arguments comprise any one or
4 more of a data type, a format type, and a keyword.

1 28. The method of Claim 12, wherein accepting service requests from the
2 external application comprises accepting service requests having one or more keywords
3 associated therewith.

1 29. The method of Claim 28, wherein the service request comprises a service
2 request to retrieve data from the local clipboard of the first device, and wherein
3 transferring the data in accordance with the service request comprises transferring the data
4 and the one or more keywords associated with the data from the local clipboard to the
5 external application via the clipboard web service.

1 30. The method of Claim 28, wherein the service request comprises a service
2 request to write data to the local clipboard of the first device, and wherein transferring the
3 data in accordance with the service request comprises transferring the data and the one or
4 more keywords associated with the data from the external application to the local clipboard
5 via the clipboard web service.

1 31. The method of Claim 12, wherein the service request to access the local
2 clipboard of the first device comprises a service request to write data from the external
3 application to the local clipboard.

1 32. The method of Claim 12, wherein the service request to access the local
2 clipboard of the first device comprises a service request to read data from the local
3 clipboard to the external application.

1 33. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon which are
2 executable by a computer system for communicating information over a network by
3 performing steps comprising:
4 exposing a local clipboard of a computing device as a service to at least one
5 external application over the network;

6 receiving a transfer indication from the external application that a transfer
7 of information between the exposed local clipboard of the computing device and the
8 external application is requested; and
9 facilitating the transfer of information between the local clipboard of the
10 computing device and the external application in response to the transfer indication.

1 34. The method of Claim 33, wherein the instructions for exposing the local
2 clipboard to at least one external application comprises instructions for exposing the local
3 clipboard as a web service to the one or more external applications over the network.

1 35. A network entity operable on a network, comprising:
2 a local clipboard for storing data;
3 a clipboard service exposing module for exposing the local clipboard as a
4 service towards external applications having access to the network entity via the network;
5 a service request processing module coupled to the clipboard service
6 exposing module to receive service requests provided by the external applications; and
7 a transceiver to transfer the data between the local clipboard and the
8 external applications as directed by the service requests.

1 36. The network entity as in Claim 35, further comprising a clipboard
2 Application Programming Interface (API) coupled between the service request processing
3 module and the local clipboard of the network entity.

1 37. The network entity as in Claim 35, further comprising a data availability
2 notification module to notify the external applications that data has been posted to the local
3 clipboard that is available to the external applications.

1 38. The network entity as in Claim 35, wherein the network entity comprises a
2 server operable on the network.

1 39. The network entity as in Claim 35, wherein the network entity comprises a
2 mobile computing device coupled to the network over-the-air (OTA).

1 40. A computing device operable on a network, comprising:
2 a local clipboard for storing data;
3 a processor configured to expose the local clipboard as a service towards
4 external applications having access to the computing device via the network, and to receive
5 service requests provided by the external applications; and
6 means for transferring the data between the local clipboard and the external
7 applications as directed by the service requests.

1 41. A system for communicating data over a network, comprising:
2 a first network entity hosting at least a first application;
3 a second network entity including a local clipboard for locally storing data,
4 wherein the second network entity further comprises:
5 a processor configured to expose the local clipboard as a service
6 towards the first application hosted by the first network entity, and to receive
7 service requests provided by the first application; and
8 a transceiver to transfer the data between the local clipboard and the
9 first application as directed by the service requests.